

# INFORMATION LETTER

Not for  
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members  
Only

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## Reprints of Dunbar Speech On Insecticide Policy

Reprints of the address on the Food and Drug Administration's policy on insecticidal residues in foods, delivered by Dr. Paul B. Dunbar and published in the *INFORMATION LETTER* of June 4, are available on request to the N.C.A. Raw Products Bureau.

## Anderson Subcommittee Studies Brannan Farm Plan

Hearings on the Brannan Farm Program were begun July 7 by a seven-man Senate Agricultural subcommittee whose membership includes the former Secretary of Agriculture and the author of the Aiken law.

The subcommittee was created specifically for a study of S. 1971, which was drafted in the Department of Agriculture, but will cover all phases of the plan proposed by Secretary Brannan. His predecessor, Senator Anderson (N. M.), is chairman of the subcommittee. Other members are Senators Thomas (Okla.), Hoey (N. C.), Holland (Fla.), Aiken (Vt.), Young (N. D.) and Thye (Minn.).

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## RMA Program Reviewed

Research on nutrition and the dissemination of information that will help consumers in buying food items that add up to a nutritious diet were urged by the Agricultural Research Policy Committee at its quarterly meeting recently in Washington.

The Committee also urged that the Department of Agriculture give consideration to developing new ways and means of informing American farmers about problems relating to soil fertility and conservation practices that will help improve and maintain the Nation's soil and water resources. These recommendations followed the Committee's review of the RMA program for the fiscal year beginning July 1 and consideration of special fields to which emphasis should be given in fiscal year 1951.

## House Approves Bill Intended To Legalize Delivered Pricing

The O'Mahoney bill, S. 1008, which was intended to dissipate existing confusion and permanently legalize the independent use of delivered price selling and freight absorption and the good faith meeting of competition, was passed by the House on July 7, but was amended. The amendments are under study by Counsel.

The House adopted the amendments proposed by the House Judiciary Committee, eliminating the so-called Kefauver amendment which had been added to S. 1008 when it was before the Senate. However, the House added new language where the Kefauver amendments had been stricken. S. 1008 in its present form may be approved by the Senate or may be rejected and sent to a conference wherein the views of the two bodies would be reconciled.

A brief analysis of the O'Mahoney bill and amendments proposed by the House Judiciary Committee was published in the *INFORMATION LETTER* of June 25, page 239.

## Annual Mold Count Schools

Instruction in the official Howard Mold Count on tomato products for technicians who are employed by canners in the Midwest and Eastern areas will be given again this year at Lafayette, Ind., and at Geneva, N. Y. As usual, these schools are under the direct sponsorship of the Indiana Canners Association and the Association of New York State Canners, Inc., respectively.

The Indiana Canners Association school will be held at Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind., from July 13 to July 22, inclusive. Communications about this school should be directed to the Indiana Canners Association, Indianapolis.

The school in New York State will be held at the Geneva Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y., from July 27 to August 5, inclusive. Communications should be addressed to Dr. Carl S. Pederson, Geneva Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y. Those who are planning to attend either school should communicate with the particular school for instructions regarding necessary equipment, etc. Both the Indiana Canners Association and the Association of New York State Canners

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## PMA Continuous Inspection

Requirements for fruit and vegetable processing plants operating under continuous PMA inspection on a contract basis, as issued by the Production and Marketing Administration, were published in the *Federal Register* of June 30 and will become effective 30 days after publication. The requirements apply to premises, buildings and structures, facilities, equipment, operations and operating procedures, and personnel health.

## Food Industry Sanitarians

The Association of Food Industry Sanitarians, which was created in May, 1947, has released to its membership the first of a periodical series of bulletins, each to be prepared by an A.F.I.S. member on a phase of sanitation activities in food plants. The first bulletin dealt with the "Organization of a Sanitation Program" on an industry-wide level.

One of the objectives of the A.F.I.S. is to promote a high degree of skill and efficiency among its members through a mutual exchange of knowledge and experience. The association is growing through the interest of new

membership and is striving to increase its membership in order that all food industries will be represented and participate in its activities.

Officers of the association are: President—Keith Fenner, Birds Eye-Snyder Div., General Foods Corp., Woodburn, Ore.; vice president—Vincent W. Barnes, Barron-Gray Packing Co., San Jose, Calif.; and executive secretary—E. S. Doyle, National Canners Association, San Francisco.

Headquarters of the A.F.I.S. is at 461 Market Street, Room 620, San Francisco 5.

### Mrs. Galliher Hospitalized

Mrs. Anna F. Galliher, Assistant Director of the Association's Raw Products Bureau, was hospitalized with serious injuries in Monrovia Hospital July 6 following an automobile accident on the outskirts of Monrovia, Calif. Her daughter, Susan, also was injured seriously and is in the hospital there.

Mrs. Galliher and her daughter were driving west on vacation, and their auto reportedly collided with a dump truck. Mrs. Galliher's injuries are serious but not critical, and the nature of her injuries is unknown.

### Stanley Andrews Heads OFAR

Appointment of Stanley Andrews, former publisher and editor of farm magazines and wartime executive in the Commodity Credit Corporation and Farm Credit Administration, as Director of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, has been announced. He fills the position formerly held by Dr. Dennis A. Fitzgerald, present director of the food and agriculture division of the Economic Cooperation Administration.

### Forthcoming Meetings

- July 10-15—Institute of Food Technologists, 1949 Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Calif.
- July 13—National Kraft Packers Association, Annual Meeting, The Hotel Reiger, Sandusky, Ohio.
- July 13-22—Canners' Technicians School, conducted by Indiana Canners Association, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.
- July 27-August 5—Canners' Technicians School, conducted by Association of New York State Canners, Inc., Geneva Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y.
- October 12-15—National Association of Food Chains, Annual Meeting, Washington, D. C.
- October 20-23—Florida Canners Association, 18th Annual Meeting, Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Daytona Beach, Fla.

November 7-8—Wisconsin Canners Association, 45th Annual Convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wis.

November 14-16—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., 41st Annual Meeting, Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

November 21-22—Pennsylvania Canners Association, 26th Annual Convention, Penn-Harris Hotel, Harrisburg.

November 28-29—Michigan Canners Association, Fall Meeting, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids, Mich.

December 1-2—Tri-State Packers Association, 45th Annual Meeting, Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C.

December 1-2—Indiana Canners Association, Fall Convention, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis.

December 8-9—Association of New York State Canners, Inc., Annual Convention, Hotel Statler, Buffalo.

December 13-14—Ohio Canners Association, Annual Convention, Dushler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus.

January 22-31—Annual Conventions of National Canners Association, National Food Brokers Association, and Canning Machinery & Supplies Association, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 28-31—National-American Wholesale Grocers Association, Annual Convention, The Ambassador, Atlantic City, N. J.

March 9-10—Canners League of California, Fruit and Vegetable Sample Cuttings, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, Calif.

March 23-24—Canners League of California, Annual Convention, Biltmore Hotel, Santa Barbara, Calif.

### Northwest Canners Association

The 1950 annual meeting of the Northwest Canners Association will be held at the Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Ore., March 15-17, it has been announced by C. R. Tulley, executive vice president.

## FOREIGN TRADE

### FAO Reports on World-Wide Prices of Farm Products

Wholesale prices of farm, forestry, and fishery products declined in relation to the general wholesale price level generally around the world during 1948-49, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations reports in the July issue of its monthly statistics bulletin. The decline was particularly noticeable in the last months of 1948 and the early months of 1949, with many indications that the postwar peak in farm product prices has generally been passed.

Major influences affecting the decline were better farm production and a slackening of inflationary pressures, FAO said. Declines were greatest in such countries as Hungary, Finland, and France, where inflation held full sway in the earlier postwar years, but has since abated.

There were a few exceptions to the general decline. These were in

countries where prices had previously been held down by government controls or where the production of meat and livestock products was of great importance. In Australia, for example, higher meat prices maintained general agricultural prices at a high level.

Despite the general declines, however, wholesale prices of farm products compared to wholesale prices of all products in late 1948 or in 1949 average about the same as prewar, with about as many countries above the prewar average as below, according to the FAO report. In cases where countries are paying farmers direct subsidies which are not included in wholesale prices, prices received by farmers are relatively higher than prices of farm products at wholesale.

The decline in United States activity and income has not as yet been paralleled in its foreign trade. The annual value of imports increased steadily from 1945 through 1948; the monthly values leveled off in mid-1948, and values for the first four months of 1949 were just barely below the first four months of 1948. The value of exports, which had risen sharply from 1945 to 1947, declined materially in 1948. So far in 1949 it has been maintained at the 1948 levels. Export prices have declined fairly steadily since early 1948, while import prices have risen. Thus terms of trade for countries buying from the United States have improved.

Despite the declining economic activity in the United States, activity in the rest of the world as a whole may continue to expand in 1949, it was said. The extent to which the current decline in the United States will affect economic conditions and the demand for farm products in other countries will depend in good part upon how far their economies are or can be insulated from the developments in dollar areas, and upon how greatly the decline in U.S. buying power reduces U.S. imports.

Except for effects of price reductions on producers of commodities for commercial export to the dollar area, the decline on the whole may have relatively little effect during 1949 upon the prosperity of farmers in other countries, the FAO reported. Internal demand for farm products for domestic consumption seems likely to continue high in most countries. If the downward trend in U.S. activity should continue in 1950, however, it might have more serious repercussions on the economies of other countries, and in turn upon the demand for farm products in those countries.

## Philippine Import Regulations

The Philippine Republic will bring under import quota for the first time canned pineapple and all vegetables in any form, except potatoes, effective August 1.

Detailed information concerning these changes in Philippine import regulations is available from the Office of International Trade, U. S. Department of Commerce, or from any Commerce Department field office, it has been announced.

## Preserver Exhibition in Italy

Entry applications and new descriptive material about the International Exhibition of Preserves to be held at Parma, Italy, September 8-19, have been received by the Association and are available to all canners on request. The main purpose of the exhibition is the display of preserved foods—including canned fruits, vegetables and juices, meats and fish—and machinery.

## Export Control Regulations

Current effective export control regulations, as issued and administered by the Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce, have been codified in the *Federal Register* of June 7.

## Foreign Markets

The market for canned fruits and vegetables in Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay is briefly analyzed in a Commerce Department report, *World Trade in Commodities*, Vol. VII, Part 6-7-8, No. 19.

## New Association Members

The following firms have been admitted into membership in the Association since June 4, 1949:

Bailey & Son, Latouche, Alaska  
Fishermen's Federation, Inc., 15th N. W. at Shilshole, Seattle 7, Wash.  
Food Specialty Co., 700 Fontanelle St., Seattle 8, Wash.  
Kayak Packing Co., 3226 Hunter Blvd., Seattle 44, Wash.  
Thomas and Marble, Dryden, Me.  
Markham & Markham, Ridge, Md.  
Markham Canning Co., Emmerton, Va.  
Knouse Foods Cooperative, Inc., Peach Glen, Pa.  
Silveira & O'Connell, P. O. Box 117, Sebastopol, Calif.

# STATISTICS

## BLS Price Index

The May 15 consumers' price index for canned fruits and vegetables, as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, had dropped to the lowest level since October 1946, with the exception of only one month (October, 1948).

BLS Consumer Price Index  
(1935-39 = 100)

Food Group	April 15 1949	May 15 1949
Fresh fruits & vegetables....	231.5	234.6
Fresh meats, poultry, fish....	234.4	232.3
Dried fruits & vegetables....	228.3	227.5
All fruits & vegetables....	218.6	220.7
Beverages.....	208.2	207.2
All foods.....	202.8	202.4
Eggs.....	183.8	190.9
Dairy products.....	184.9	182.6
Sugar & sweets.....	176.2	176.1
Cereals & bakery products.....	170.3	170.1
All cost of living items.....	169.7	169.2
Canned fruits & vegetables....	157.1	156.3
Fats & oils.....	149.8	144.4

## Crop and Weather Report

The following report is based on information from state associations and state "crop and weather reports" as of July 1:

Reports from Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, and New England, as of July 1, generally show a need for rain, although scattered showers have given slight relief locally. Temperatures have been above normal. The bean and corn crops in Maryland have made good progress where rains have fallen, but have been damaged in the drought area of the Delmar peninsula. Beans and corn are badly in need of rain in Pennsylvania and New York. Some corn acreage is spotty due to poor germination of June plantings. Tomatoes generally look good throughout the area. Maryland reports the set of fruit on the lower Eastern Shore is heavy and quality good. Tomatoes are behind somewhat in the drought area of the Delmar peninsula. Pennsylvania and New York report fields in good shape. Sweet cherry harvest is well underway in New York, and sour cherry harvest is getting underway.

Ohio, Indiana, Michigan also have had very hot weather. Crops are making good progress with adequate moisture.

Crop prospects in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota had improved by July 1 with more adequate moisture, although there still is a lack of subsoil moisture in parts of Wisconsin.

The drought in eastern portions of Oregon and Washington had not ended by July 1. There were scattered rainfalls but they were not sufficient to relieve the danger. The weather has been unseasonably cool. High winds further depleted moisture throughout these states. Beans are in good condition, but rain is needed for all crops. Weather was generally favorable for tree fruits except for local wind damage. Harvesting of the large sweet cherry crop is underway. Apricots are ripening. Dry weather has favored pear blight control and has caused some damage to peaches, cherries, and prunes.

Although practically no rain has fallen in Utah during June, truck crops are in good condition as irrigation water has been plentiful.

## Farm Population Estimates

The number of people living on farms in the United States increased slightly during 1948, according to estimates of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The rate of increase, however, was only 1.2 percent, somewhat below the 1.7 percent increase that occurred in the total U. S. population.

The farm population was estimated at 27,776,000 in January, 1949, as compared with 27,440,000 in January, 1948. BAE attributed the increase to the excess of births over deaths, totaling 479,000, as the direction of net migration was away from farms. The relatively small net migration from farms conceals the fact that many people were involved, BAE said. Approximately 1.3 million persons moved away from farms and nearly 1.2 million moved to farms in 1948, for a net loss of 143,000.

All major geographic divisions of the United States had slight gains in farm population during 1948 except New England and the West South Central States, which had slight losses. The Pacific States had the largest relative increase, a gain of nearly 4 percent. The Pacific and New England divisions are the only divisions which have more people living on farms in 1949 than in the pre-war year of 1940.

For the country as a whole, the net decrease in farm population from January, 1940, to January, 1949, was estimated at 8.2 percent. Actually, the farm population decreased from 1940 to 1945 by 16.8 percent, but approximately half of the loss has been regained since the end of the war.



## STANDARDS

### Grades for Citrus Juices

United States standards for grades of canned grapefruit juice, canned blended grapefruit and orange juice, canned orange juice, and canned tangerine juice, as revised by the Production and Marketing Administration, were published in the *Federal Register* of June 28 and will be effective 30 days after the date of publication.

### PMA Frozen Cherry Grades

United States standards for grades of frozen red sour (tart) pitted cherries, as promulgated by the Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, were published in the *Federal Register* of June 18, and were effective on the date of publication.

## CONGRESS

### Domestic Tin-Smelting

"To promote the conservation of the tin ore reserves of the Western Hemisphere and to increase their availability for the tin requirements of the United States through diversification of tin recovery facilities in the United States," the Reconstruction Finance Corporation was authorized by P.L. 148, approved June 30, to sell low-grade tin concentrates to the highest bidder for smelting in the United States, provided that such sales result in no greater loss to the Government than it would cost the RFC to process the tin. P.L. 148 amended P.L. 125, 80th Congress, under which the RFC is authorized to operate the tin smelter at Texas City, Tex., until July 1, 1951.

### Brannan Farm Program

(Concluded from page 251)

S. 1971 would reenact, with amendments, provisions of the AAA of 1938, and would authorize the establishment of marketing quotas and acreage allotments on almost all agricultural commodities—including all fruits and vegetables. Although S. 1971 contains no provision for price support operations, it proposes to compel subjection to marketing quotas and marketing orders as a condition to receiving

price support payments (see INFORMATION LETTER of June 4, page 221).

S. 1721, which would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make direct payments to producers of hogs, in line with one of Secretary Brannan's recommendations, is under study by another Senate Agricultural subcommittee. S. 1721 provides:

"The Secretary may provide price support for hogs, in whole or in part, through payments to producers. The Secretary may determine the rate or rates of payments annually or periodically on the basis of the amount by which the estimated average price to all producers of the commodity for the period to which the rate relates is less than the level of price support therefor; and such rate or rates may be adjusted by the Secretary, to the extent he deems practicable, for differences in quality, location, and other factors. Payments hereunder may be

limited to the quantity marketed by the producer."

The Pace bill, H. R. 5345, providing for a "trial run" on three farm commodities, including hogs, also would authorize direct payments to producers, but would impose limitations on the extent to which market prices would be allowed to decline with supply and demand (see INFORMATION LETTER of July 2, page 247). S. 1721 apparently contains no such restrictions.

### Annual Mold Count Schools

(Concluded from page 251)

have stated that technicians employed by commercial canning firms will be welcome at either school, not only from the particular states but also from other areas.

The first three days of each of the schools will be devoted to elementary instruction for the benefit of students who have not had previous training.

The instruction at both schools will be under the supervision of Howard R. Smith of the Washington Research Laboratory of the National Canners Association with the assistance of Miss Lucy Witherow of the N.C.A. Washington Laboratory and representatives of the research departments of the American Can Company, the Continental Can Company, the National Can Company, and possibly one other can company.

### Invitations for Bids

★ Quartermaster Purchasing Office—111 East 16th Street, New York 3, N. Y.; 1819 West Pershing Road, Chicago 9, Ill.; Oakland Army Base, Oakland 14, Calif. (Western Branch).

Veterans Administration—Procurement Division, Veterans Administration Building, Washington 25, D. C.

The Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act will apply to all operations performed after the date of notice of award if the total value of a contract is \$10,000 or over.

The Veterans Administration has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

GRAPE JAM—1,200 No. 10 cans, f.o.b. destination. Bids due under invitation No. 9-S by July 15.

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